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the medical school, \$200,000. At the same time the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts College at Stillwater was granted: Science hall, \$100,000; gymnasium, \$100,000.

THE residue of the estate of James Buchanan Brady, which is estimated as more than four million dollars, is bequeathed to the New York Hospital on West Sixteenth Street, New York City, to establish the James Buchanan Brady Foundation for a urological institute, similar to that at Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore, which Mr. Brady had endowed during his life with \$200,000. An additional \$300,000 is left in trust to the Johns Hopkins Hospital for the maintenance of the institute.

THE Harvard Medical School will provide instruction for the senior class during the summer, with two weeks holiday. It is optional with students whether they will begin their fourth year's work on June 4 or September 24.

OWING to the national emergency, the Cornell University Medical College announces that it will continue instruction for members of its senior class throughout the summer so that they may be graduated with the degree of M.D. on or about January 1, 1917.

PROFESSOR C. R. RICHARDS, professor of mechanical engineering and head of the department since 1911, has been appointed dean of the College of Engineering and director of the Engineering Experiment Station of the University of Illinois to succeed Dr. W. F. M. Goss who has resigned to become president of the Railway Car Manufacturers' Association of New York.

DR. CHAS. BROOKOVER, of the University of Kansas, has been elected professor of anatomy and director of the department at the University of Louisville.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A VIABLE TEN-YEAR-OLD CULTURE OF BACILLUS PARATYPHOSUS BETA

As the usual text-books, manuals and current literature make but little or no mention of the length of life of individual bacteria the following record may not be without interest.

In 1909, when I began teaching bacteriology at Howard University, among the stock cultures of organisms in the laboratory was one labeled "Paratyphoid Schottmüller 1-14-06." It was a deep agar stab made in a narrow test tube and the tube instead of being closed in the usual manner by a cotton plug had been sealed off in the flame. Hermetically sealed, the agar culture had been prevented from drying. The culture had been prepared three years previously by Dr. W. W. Alleger.

On January 17, 1916, ten years and three days after the culture had been made, the tube was broken open and the organisms transferred to Russell double sugar. The characteristic red color and gas did not appear in the butt of the tube on the first transfer. Transfers were then made from this tube to other double sugar tubes at irregular intervals during a couple of months. At about the fifth transfer the organism showed its characteristic reaction on the double sugar. Its fermentation of separate sugars was tried, as well as other cultural tests, and the agglutination test with paratyphoid beta immune serum was done. All these indicated that the organism was *Bacillus paratyphosus beta*.

During the ten years it had always been kept in a closet away from the light, along with the other stock cultures. The temperature in closet varied during the first five years from as high as 32° C. in summer to nearly as low as 0° C. in winter. During the last five years the temperature was never lower than 15° C.

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#### A METHOD FOR KILLING TURTLES

KILLING turtles for class purposes is more or less of a task depending upon the equipment at hand. Even though a closed tank is available for administering gas, thirty minutes to an hour is required for anesthetizing these reptiles and then they may revive during dissection. Another expedient sometimes resorted to is to place the specimens in boiling water for a few minutes. This has its objections. I have observed attempts to